

Please add new claims 246-263.

Please amend the claims as follows:

68. A method of facilitating ordering an item using an interactive television system including at least one client and at least one server, the method comprising:

using the server to provide data, some of which represents video and some of which represents a computing application, to the client;

at the client, causing the video to be displayed, and executing the computing application to cause display of interactive information;

using one or more of the displayed video and the interactive information to show and/or describe an item to a television viewer;

enabling the viewer to select the item by interacting with the client; and

in response to the viewer interaction, causing an order for the item to be placed.

69. The method of claim 68, wherein the viewer interaction causes display of instructions to solicit information necessary to place the order.

70. The method of claim 69, wherein the information is solicited using one or more of an on-screen display and voice instructions.

71. The method of claim 68, wherein the viewer interaction is by way of a single command.

72. The method of claim 71, wherein the single command is by one of the group of:

selecting of a single button; and

pressing of a single button on a TV remote control.

73. The method of claim 68, wherein causing the order to be placed is achieved by using:

information related to the item and viewer related personal information.

74. The method of claim 73, wherein the personal information includes at least one of the group consisting of the viewer's name, address, method of payment and payment account number.

75. The method of claim 74, wherein the personal information is stored in memory at the client.

76. The method of claim 74, wherein the system further includes a local computer and associated storage and wherein the method further comprises:

using the client to retrieve information from one or more of the local computer and the associated storage.

77. The method of claim 76, wherein the method further comprises:
controlling the client by means of the local computer.

78. The method of claim 76, wherein the local computer is part of a local area network.

79. The method of claim 68, wherein the system further includes a central processing facility in communication with the server and wherein the method comprises:

sending information used in processing the order from the client to the central processing facility.

80. The method of claim 79, further comprising:

communicating information between the client and the server via the central processing facility.

81. The method of claim 79, wherein a telephone system acts as the central processing facility.

82. The method of claim 68, further comprising:

sending an order confirmation to the user to confirm the order.

83. The method of claim 68, wherein the server provides data in a series of multiplexed packets, ones of which contain data representing the video, and others of which represent the computing application.

84. The method of claim 83, wherein the computing application is repetitively transmitted during times that the video is transmitted.

85. The method of claim 83, wherein the client includes a client computer and an auxiliary processor, the method comprising:

using the auxiliary data processor to process data representing the video,
and

using the client computer to execute the computing application.

86. The method of claim 85, wherein the client computer and the auxiliary data processor are contained in a set top box.

87. A method of facilitating ordering an item using an interactive television system, the method comprising:

receiving data, some of which represents video and some of which
represents a computing application;

causing the video to be displayed;

executing the computing application to cause display of interactive information;

using one or more of the displayed video and the interactive information to show and/or describe an item to a television user;

enabling the user to select the item by way of an interaction; and

in response to the interaction, causing an order for the item to be placed.

88. The method of claim 87, wherein the interaction causes display of instructions to solicit information necessary to place the order.

89. The method of claim 88, wherein the information is solicited using one or more of an on-screen display and voice instructions.

90. The method of claim 87, wherein the interaction is by way of a single command.

91. The method of claim 90, wherein the single command is by one of the group of:

selecting of a single button; and

pressing of a single button on a TV remote control.

92. The method of claim 87, wherein causing the order to be placed is achieved by using:

information related to the item and user related personal information.

93. The method of claim 92, wherein the personal information includes at least one of the group consisting of the user's name, address, method of payment and payment account number.

94. The method of claim 93, wherein the personal information is stored in local memory.

95. The method of claim 87, further comprising:
communicating information via a central processing facility.

96. The method of claim 95, wherein a telephone system acts as the central processing facility.

97. The method of claim 87, further comprising receiving an order confirmation to the user to confirm the order.

98. The method of claim 87, wherein the data comprises a series of multiplexed packets, ones of which contain data representing the video, and others of which represent the computing application.

99. The method of claim 87, wherein a client includes a client computer and an auxiliary processor, the method comprising:

using the auxiliary data processor to process data representing the video,
and

using the client computer to execute the computing application.

100. The method of claim 99, wherein the client computer and the auxiliary data processor are contained in a set top box.

101. A method of facilitating ordering an item using an interactive television system, the method comprising:

providing data, some of which represents video to be displayed and some of which represents a computing application to be executed to display interactive information, to the client, the client to use one or more of the displayed video and the interactive information to show and/or describe an item to a television user and to enable the user to select the item by interacting with the client; and

in response to the interaction, receiving an order for the item.

102. The method of claim 101, wherein the received order includes:
information related to the item and user related personal information.

103. The method of claim 102, wherein the personal information includes at least one of the group consisting of the user's name, address, method of payment and payment account number.

104. The method of claim 101, including providing the data in a series of multiplexed packets, ones of which contain data representing the video, and others of which represent the computing application.

105. The method of claim 101, wherein the computing application is repetitively transmitted during times that the video is transmitted.

106. An interactive television system comprising:

a server to provide data, some of which represents video and some of which represents a computing application, to a client;

the client to:

cause the video to be displayed;

execute the computing application to cause display of interactive information;

use one or more of the displayed video and the interactive information to show and/or describe an item to a television user;

enable the television user to select the item by interacting with the client; and

in response to the interaction, cause an order for the item to be placed.

107. The system of claim 106, wherein the user interaction causes display of instructions to solicit information necessary to cause the order to be placed.

108. The system of claim 107, wherein the information is solicited using one or more of an on-screen display and voice instructions.

109. The system of claim 106, wherein the interaction is by way of a single command.

110. The system of claim 109, wherein the single command is by one of the group of:

selecting of a single button; and

pressing of a single button on a TV remote control.

111. The system of claim 106, wherein causing the order to be placed is achieved by using:

information related to the item and user related personal information.

112. The system of claim 111, wherein the personal information includes at least one of the group consisting of the user's name, address, method of payment and payment account number.

113. The system of claim 111, wherein the personal information is stored in memory at the client.

114. The system of claim 111, wherein the system further includes a local computer and associated storage and wherein the method further comprises:

using the client to retrieve information from one or more of the local computer and the associated storage.

115. The system of claim 106, wherein the client is to be controlled by means of the local computer.

116. The system of claim 115, wherein the local computer is part of a local area network.

117. The system of claim 106, wherein the system further includes a central processing facility in communication with the server and wherein the client is to send information used in processing the order to the central processing facility.

118. The system of claim 117, wherein the client is to communicate with the server via the central processing facility.

119. The system of claim 118, wherein a telephone system acts as the central processing facility.

120. The system of claim 106, wherein the server is to send an order confirmation to the user to confirm the order.

121. The system of claim 106, wherein the server is to provide data in a series of multiplexed packets, ones of which contain data representing the video, and others of which represent the computing application.

122. The system of claim 106, wherein the computing application is repetitively transmitted during times that the video is transmitted.

123. The system of claim 106, wherein the client includes a client computer and an auxiliary processor, and:

the auxiliary data processor is to process data representing the video, and

the client computer is to execute the computing application.

124. The system of claim 123, wherein the client computer and the auxiliary data processor comprise a set top box.

125. An interactive television system to order an item, the system comprising:

a receiver to receive data, some of which represents video and some of which represents a computing application; and

a processing unit to:

execute the computing application to cause display of interactive information;

using the interactive information, show and/or describe an item to a television user;

enable the user to select the item by way of an interaction; and

in response to the interaction, cause an order for the item to be placed.

126. The system of claim 125, wherein the interaction causes the processing unit to display instructions to solicit information necessary to cause the order to be placed.

127. The system of claim 126, wherein the information is solicited using one or more of an on-screen display and voice instructions.

128. The system of claim 125, wherein the interaction is by way of a single command.

129. The system of claim 128, wherein the single command is by one of the group of:

selecting of a single button; and

pressing of a single button on a TV remote control.

130. The system of claim 125, wherein the processing unit causes the order to be placed using:

information related to the item and user related personal information.

131. The system of claim 130, wherein the personal information includes at least one of the group consisting of the user's name, address, method of payment and payment account number.

132. The system of claim 130, including a local memory to store the personal information memory.

133. The system of claim 125, further comprising a central processing facility to communicate information.

134. The system of claim 133, wherein a telephone system acts as the central processing facility.

135. The system of claim 125, further comprising a further receiver to receive an order confirmation to confirm the order.

136. The system of claim 125, wherein the data comprises a series of multiplexed packets, ones of which contain data representing the video, and others of which represent the computing application, the system including a first extractor to extract the video and a second extractor to extract the computing application from the data.

137. The system of claim 125, including:

an auxiliary data processor to process the video, and

a client computer to execute the computing application, the processing unit being associated with the client computer.

138. The system of claim 137, wherein the client computer and the auxiliary data processor comprise a set top box.

139. An interactive television system to order an item, the system comprising:

a server to provide data, some of which represents video to be displayed and some of which represents a computing application to be executed to display interactive information, to a client, the client to use one or more of the displayed video and the interactive information to show and/or describe an item to a television user and to enable the television user to select the item by interacting with the client; and

a receiver, in response to the interaction, to receive an order for the item.

140. The system of claim 139, wherein the received order includes:

information related to the item and user related personal information.

141. The system of claim 140, wherein the personal information includes at least one of the group consisting of the television user's name, address, method of payment and payment account number.

142. The system of claim 139, wherein the server is to provide the data in a series of multiplexed packets, ones of which contain data representing the video, and others of which represent the computing application.

143. The system of claim 139, wherein the server is to repetitively transmit at least a portion of the computing application during times that the video is transmitted.

246. (New) A machine-readable medium embodying a sequence of instructions that, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to facilitate ordering an item using an interactive television system by:

receiving data, some of which represents video and some of which represents a computing application;

causing the video to be displayed;

executing the computing application to cause display of interactive information;

using one or more of the displayed video and the interactive information to show and/or describe an item to a television user;

enabling the user to select the item by way of an interaction; and

in response to the interaction, causing an order for the item to be placed.

247. (New) A machine-readable medium embodying a sequence of instructions that, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to facilitate ordering an item using an interactive television system by:

providing data, some of which represents video to be displayed and some of which represents a computing application to be executed to display interactive information, to the client, the client to use one or more of the displayed video and the interactive information to show and/or describe an item to a television user and to enable the user to select the item by interacting with the client ; and

in response to the interaction, receiving an order for the item.

248. (New) A method of facilitating ordering an item using an interactive television system including at least one client and at least one server, the method comprising:

using the server to provide data for use by a computing application to the client;

at the client, executing the computing application to cause display of interactive information;

using the interactive information to show and/or describe an item to a television viewer;

enabling the viewer to select the item by interacting with the client; and

in response to the viewer interaction, causing an order relating to the item to be placed.

249. (New) The method of claim 248, wherein the viewer interaction is by way of a single command.

250. (New) The method of claim 249, wherein the single command is by one of a group of:

selecting of a single button; and

pressing of a single button on a TV remote control.

251. (New) The method of claim 248, wherein causing the order to be placed is achieved by using:

information related to the item and viewer related personal information.

252. (New) The method of claim 251, wherein the personal information is stored in memory at the client.

253. (New) A method of facilitating ordering an item using an interactive television system, the method comprising:

receiving data to be used by a computing application;

executing the computing application to cause display of interactive information;

using the interactive information to show and/or describe an item to a television user;

enabling the user to select the item by way of an interaction; and

in response to the interaction, causing an order relating to the item to be placed.

254. (New) A method of facilitating ordering an item using an interactive television system, the method comprising:

providing data to be used by a computing application to a client to cause display of interactive information, the client to use the interactive information to show and/or describe an item to a television user and to enable the user to select the item by interacting with the client; and

in response to the interaction, receiving an order for the item.

255. (New) An interactive television system comprising:

a server to provide data, to be used by a computing application, to a client;

the client to:

execute the computing application to cause display of interactive information;

use the interactive information to show and/or describe an item to a television user;

enable the television user to select the item by interacting with the client ; and

in response to the interaction, cause an order for the item to be placed.

256. (New) An interactive television system to order an item, the system comprising:

a receiver to receive data to be used by a computing application; and

a processing unit to:

execute the computing application to cause display of interactive information;

using the interactive information, show and/or describe an item to a television user;

enable the user to select the item by way of an interaction; and

in response to the interaction, cause an order for the item to be placed.

257. (New) An interactive television system to order an item, the system comprising:

a server to provide data, to be used by a computing application to display interactive information, to a client, the client to use the interactive information to show and/or describe an item to a television user and to enable the television user to select the item by interacting with the client; and

a receiver, in response to the interaction, to receive an order for the item.

258. (New) A method of facilitating ordering using an interactive television system including at least one client and at least one server, the method comprising:

using the server to provide data for use by a computing application to the client;

at the client, executing the computing application to cause display of interactive information;

using the interactive information to show and/or describe an offering to a television viewer

enabling the viewer to select the offering by interacting with the client; and

in response to the viewer interaction, causing an order relating to the offering to be placed.

259. (New) A method of facilitating ordering an offering using an interactive television system, the method comprising:

receiving data to be used by a computing application;

executing the computing application to cause display of interactive information;

using the interactive information to show and/or describe an offering to a television user;

enabling the user to select the offering by way of an interaction; and

in response to the interaction, causing an order relating to the offering to be placed.

260. (New) A method comprising:

providing data to be used by a computing application to a client to cause display of interactive information, the client to use the interactive information to show and/or describe an offering to a television user and to enable the user to select the offering by interacting with the client and in response to the interaction, receiving an order for the offering.

261. (New) An interactive television system comprising:

a server to provide data, to be used by a computing application, to a client;

the client to:

execute the computing application to cause display of interactive information;

use the interactive information to show and/or describe an offering to a television user;

enable the television user to select the offering by interacting with the client; and

in response to the interaction, cause an order for the offering to be placed.

262. (New) An interactive television system comprising:

a receiver to receive data to be used by a computing application; and

a processing unit to:

execute the computing application to cause display of interactive information;

using the interactive information, show and/or describe an offering to a television user;

enable the television user to select the offering by way of an interaction; and

in response to the interaction, cause an order for the item to be placed.

263. (New) An interactive television system comprising:

a server to provide data, to be used by a computing application to display interactive information, to a client, the client to use the interactive information to show and/or describe an offering to a television user and

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